

CLASSIFICATION : SECRET

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COUNTRY East Germany

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1. The agricultural cooperatives in the Leipzig area have been gradually dissolved, and the operators of large farms released from the cooperatives. Unpaid taxes were cancelled, and delivery quotas were no longer imposed. Owners of large farms were granted credits. They had, however, no farm workers and machinery. Three farmers in the Leipzig area and two wholesale dealers in Leipzig allegedly returned from West Germany, and their property was returned to them. Wendler (fnu), an innkeeper in Markkleeberg, who owned the Raschwitz forester's house and had been arrested for tax dues amounting to 64,000 eastmarks was released and received his property back.
2. Most of the farmers in the Meissen area were not prepared to resume work on their farms because they had to take over the debts which had accumulated. It was known that, in this district, as a result of inept management, debts amounting to 30,000 and 5,000 eastmarks had accumulated while the proprietors were away. Other cases of debts involved similar sums. Relatives of persons who fled to West Germany were not allowed to make use of this property after the announcement of the New Course. The previous owner had to take over his property himself. All returns were placed in blocked accounts and frozen. No person who fled to West Germany had yet returned to this area. No new expropriations were carried out either.
3. The rates for private enterprises were reduced and target dates were fixed less severely. The readmission of wholesale trade in the field of agricultural production and free trade for farmers had favorable effects. The supply of industrial goods, however, was still inadequate.
4. The agricultural cooperative in Gohlis-Niederau near Meissen was dissolved. The previous proprietors were reinstated. However, the situation in the Meissen and Lommatzsch area as to sugar beets, forage beets, and potatoes was extremely serious at the agricultural cooperatives. Cultivation was grossly neglected. Most fields were weedy, and the prospect of crops was extremely poor.

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